

Message Text

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ORIGIN USIA-09

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-----119429 091927Z /40

R 090052Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION USBERLIN

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USIAC BERLIN FOR RIAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, GW, US

SUBJECT: MUNICH VOA LW TRANSMITTER

REF: BONN 5828 (NOTAL)

1. USG IS PREPARED TO HOLD PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL
DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG BUNDESPOST MINISTRY IN REGARD
TO DISPOSITION OF VOA MUNICH LW TRANSMITTER.

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2. BIB (RFE/RL) INFORMS US THAT IT HAS NO DESIRE TO
MAKE USE OF THE TRANSMITTER OR FREQUENCY 209 KHZ.

3. FYI: USIA/VOA POSITION REGARDING UTILIZATION OF
VOA LW TRANSMITTER WAS CONVEYED TO HOUSE INTERNATIONAL
SUBCOMMITTEE AT CHAIRMAN'S (FASCELL) REQUEST AFTER
LATTER EXPRESSED INTEREST IN LEARNING USIA'S PLANS FOR

USE OF TRANSMITTER AT AUTHORIZATION HEARINGS.

4. USIA/VOA POSITION FOLLOWS: "IT WOULD BE IN VOA'S INTEREST TO RETAIN OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF THE MUNICH LONG WAVE FACILITY AND TO MAKE USE OF THE 209 KHZ FREQUENCY (WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE IN 1978) DURING THE PRIME TIME DAYLIGHT HOURS WHEN THE TRANSMITTER CAN OPERATE AT 500 KW POWER WITH AN OMNIDIRECTIONAL ANTENNA, I.E., IN THE SUMMER FROM 6 TO 9 A.M. AND 5 TO 7 P.M., DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE 24-HOUR PERIOD, THE TRANSMITTER WOULD BE PRACTICALLY USELESS TO VOA. IT WOULD, HOWEVER, BE FINANCIALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO VOA TO MAKE SOME KIND OF SHARING ARRANGEMENT WITH THE FRG WHEREBY THE GERMANS WOULD HAVE USE OF THE TRANSMITTER DURING PERIODS WHEN VOA DOES NOT NEED IT AND, IN RETURN, ASSUME A PROPORTIONAL SHARE OF THE COST OF OPERATING IT; OR, IN RETURN, MAKE AVAILABLE TO VOA GERMAN TRANSMITTER-TIME ELSEWHERE IN AN AREA WHERE WE COULD ADVANTAGEOUSLY UTILIZE IT. AS A MATTER OF FACT, VOA UTILIZATION OF THE MUNICH FACILITY WOULD BE FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE ONLY IF SOME KIND OF TRADE-OFF ARRANGEMENT WERE MADE, SINCE THE LIMITED USE VOA WOULD MAKE OF THE FACILITY WOULD NOT JUSTIFY THE EXPENSE OF OPERATING IT UNILATERALLY. THE SHARING OR TRADE-OFF ARRANGEMENT WITH THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED. ANY AGREEMENT ON GERMAN USE OF THE MUNICH LONG WAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FACILITY WOULD BE SUBJECT TO PERIODIC RE-EXAMINATION. THE US, IN ANY CASE, WOULD INSIST ON RETAINING ULTIMATE CONTROL AND WOULD BE ABLE TO USE THE FACILITY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY OR DRASTIC CHANGES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS."

5. WE ARE ALSO IN TOUCH WITH RIAS BERLIN TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY HAVE ANY INTEREST IN SHARING THE TRANSMITTER. END FYI.

6. GIVEN RECORD OF US-FRG DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO AND AT THE 1975 LF/MF CONFERENCE IN REGARD TO FRG HAVING PRIORITY FOR LF REQUIREMENTS, AND CONSIDERING THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 3 IN BONN 5828, IT SEEMS APPARENT THAT FRG'S PRESENT INTEREST IS PRIMARILY IN USING 209 KHZ AND NOT NECESSARILY THE VOA TRANSMITTER ITSELF.

7. IN VIEW FRG UNWILLINGNESS TO SHARE 209 KHZ WITH RFE/FL, WE NEED TO ASCERTAIN IF IT WOULD CONSIDER SHARING WITH VOA. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TAKE LOW-KEY SOUNDING WITH FRG WITHOUT COMPROMISING USIA/VOA POSITION CITED ABOVE OTHER THAN TO INDICATE VOA INTEREST IN

POSSIBLE LIMITED USE OF THE TRANSMITTER AND FREQUENCY

209 KHZ. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSMITTERS, RADIO BROADCASTING, REAL PROPERTY DISPOSAL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D770244-1208
Format: TEL
From: STATE
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770774/aaaacmoi.tel
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SAS ID: 1912911
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ETEL, GE, US, VOA
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